

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0280
INFO AMEMBASSY ROME
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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY WASHDC

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: FR TECH
SUBJ: SOLAR ENERGY WORKSHOP

1. EMBOFF, REPRESENTATIVES OF SANDIA LABS, MARTIN MARIETTA, MCDONNELL DOUGLAS, BOEING, AND ATOMICS INTERNATIONAL MET ON APRIL 17-18 WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF PIRDES (PROGRAMME INTERDISCIPLINAIRE DE LA RECHERCHE SUR L'ENERGIE SOLAIRE) TO DISCUSS CONVECTION LOSSES IN POWER TOWERS. THIS MEETING IN FRAMEWORK OF COLLABORATION ESTABLISHED BETWEEN DOE AND CNRS. PARTICIPANTS REPORTED ON STATE OF WORK CARRIED OUT IN THE US AND FRANCE ON THE THEORETICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL EVALUATION ON CONVECTION LOSSES FOR SOLAR RECEPTORS IN POWER TOWERS NOW UNDER DEVELOPMENT.

2. PAPERS PRESENTED MADE CLEAR THE DIFFICULTY OF APPROACHING THIS PROBLEM SCIENTIFICALLY. MEETING CONCLUDED THAT ITS MATHMATICAL MODELING HAS NOT YET BEEN MASTERED AND ITS SIMULATION IN LAB SCALE MODELS IS UNCLASSIFIED

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STILL IMPERFECT. BUT RESULTS OF CALCULATIONS PERFORMED UP TO NOW IN DIFFERENT EXPERIMENTS MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO CONCLUDE THAT CONVECTION LOSSES DO NOT MAKE ANY OF THE PRESENT PROJECTS ECONOMICALLY UNFEASIBLE.

3. ALL PARTICIPANTS AGREED THAT THE PURSUIT OF THESE STUDIES IS JUSTIFIED DUE TO THEIR SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

IN THE POSSIBILITY OF REDUCING POWER TOWER COSTS BY THE
USE OF APPROPRIATELY DESIGNED SOLAR RECEPTORS.

4. FRENCH AND AMERICAN PROGRAM LEADERS PRESENT AGREED
TO KEEP EACH OTHER INFORMED ON WORK TO BE CARRIED OUT IN
THE FUTURE. THEY ALSO ENVISAGE PARTICIPATION OF THIRD
COUNTRY OBSERVERS AT THEIR EXPERIMENTS AS WELL AS THE
EXCHANGE OF THEORETICIANS FOR SHORT PERIODS.
PARTICIPANTS ESTIMATED THAT THE ORGANIZATION OF A
WORKSHOP ON THIS SUBJECT IN THE SPRING OF 1979 WOULD BE
DESIRABLE TO MEASURE THE RESULTS OF THE THEORETICAL
AND EXPERIMENTAL PROGRAMS IN COURSE OF PREPARATION.
HARTMAN

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